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From: EPA Office of Public Affairs [epa@BulletinIntelligence.com]
Sent: 6/8/2021 10:58:56 AM
To: epa@BulletinIntelligence.com
Subject: EPA Daily News Clips for Tuesday, June 8, 2021

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June 8, 2021

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Today's Table of Contents

Administrator

- Regan To Testify In Senate Subcommittee. (Inside EPA)

Air

- EPA IG: Vehicle Emissions Risk Increased During Pandemic. (Bloomberg BNA)

- Fight Ahead Over Air Quality Plans. (Inside EPA)
- EPA May Toughen Power Plant Air Standards. (Greenwire)

Air/Climate/ Energy

- Biden Administration Faces Hurdles In Push To Expand Offshore Wind. (New York Times)

Brownfields/Superfund/Other Cleanups + Redevelopment

- Opportunity, MT Suit Settlement Announced. (Ravalli Republic)

Climate Change

- Carbon Dioxide In The Atmosphere Reaches Record Level Despite Pandemic Drop. (Washington Post)
- House Highway Bill Includes Climate As A Common Refrain. (Roll Call)
- Study: Emissions Vary Widely Among US Oil And Gas Producers. (Natural Gas Intelligence)

Energy Issues

- Climate Activists Seize Control Of Pipeline Construction Site In Minnesota. (Washington Post)
- Nearly 2,000 People Protest Line 3 Pipeline. (Minneapolis Star Tribune)
- Native American Tribes Pressure Biden To Halt Construction Of Minnesota Oil Pipeline. (New York Times)
- Sen. Ernst Pushes For Transparency In Refinery Waivers. (Inside EPA)
- PHSMA Tells Pipeline Operators To Begin Complying With The PIPES Act. (Reuters)
- California Looks At Real-time Retail Pricing To Facilitate More Renewables. (PV Magazine USA)
- Karelas: Fossil Fuels Are "The New Tobacco." (The Hill)

Enforcement

- GAO To Examine Environmental Impact Of Border Wall. (The Hill)

Rules/Regulations/Policy

- Colorado Emissions Bill Passes State Senate Panels, Brings Governor On Board. (Colorado Springs Gazette)
- White House Environmental Justice Guidance May Be Adjusted. (Inside EPA)
- DOJ Files Request To Dismiss Social Cost Of Carbon Lawsuit. (Bloomberg)
- Administration Officials, Congress People, Regulator To Appear At Virtual Clean Power Summit. (Inside EPA)

Toxics

- Bayer Asks 11th Circuit Court To Uphold Roundup Preemption Ruling. (Reuters)
- EPA Says It Will Reconsider PPE Use Assumptions. (Inside EPA)
- EPA To Formulate New Rules On Asbestos Reporting. (Bloomberg BNA)
- California Assembly Advances New PFAS Ban. (Inside EPA)
- Groups Petition For Ban On PFAS In Food Packaging. (Inside EPA)
- Report Says Benzene Contaminated Dozens Of Popular Sunscreens. (USA Today)

- Toxic Chemicals Associated With Reduced Fertility, Birth Rates Globally, Researchers Say. (Independent)
- Switzerland To Hold Referendum On Proposal To Ban Synthetic Pesticides. (Reuters)

Trash/Recycling/Solid Waste

- German Bottle Deposit Program Viewed As Model For Other EU States. (EurActiv)

Water

- OMB Completes Review Of EPA Request To Delay Water Rules Revision. (Inside EPA)
- EPA Asks Court To Delay Water Quality Certification Litigation. (Inside EPA)
- EPA Says PolyMet Mine May "Affect" Water Quality. (Inside EPA)
- Biden's Budget Would Boost Funds To Great Lakes. (Cleveland Plain Dealer)

ESG

- ANA Introduces ESG Brand Perception Index To Evaluate Brands. (Ad Age)
- EY's Paul Brody Foresees Consumers Being Able To Offset Their Crypto Emissions. (Forbes)

Regulation Legislation

- Rhode Island Senator Says He Is "Very Anxious" About Climate Legislation. (The Hill)

Limetree Bay Refinery

- Opinion: Limetree Bay Should Be Seen In Historical Context. (St. Thomas Source)
- Limetree Bay Was Bad Investment. (Beacon)

Administrator

Regan To Testify In Senate Subcommittee.

Inside EPA (6/7) reports, "A Senate Appropriations panel will examine the Biden administration's request to significantly increase EPA's budget in fiscal year 2022. Meanwhile, a House committee plans to mark up legislation boosting EPA's clean water infrastructure program. And several committees are also holding separate hearings examining PFAS contamination, climate resilience and DDT dumping. EPA Budget EPA Administrator Michael Regan is slated to testify June 9 before the Senate Appropriations interior subcommittee."

Back to top ▲

Air

EPA IG: Vehicle Emissions Risk Increased During Pandemic.

Bloomberg BNA (6/7, Hijazi) reports the risk of excess vehicle emissions increased when the EPA temporarily closed its transportation air quality testing facility during the pandemic, the agency's watchdog said Monday. An evaluation from the Environmental Protection Agency's Inspector General revealed that the Office of Transportation and Air Quality faced setbacks when it shuttered its vehicle and fuel emissions laboratory in Ann Arbor, MI to adhere to coronavirus precautions.

Greenwire (6/7, Skibell) also reports.

Fight Ahead Over Air Quality Plans.

Inside EPA (6/7) reports, "Environmentalists are criticizing Southeastern states' air planning efforts to cut emissions and improve visibility under the regional haze program, signaling a broader fight between conservation groups, states and EPA over the stringency of forthcoming state plans weeks before they are required to submit their plans to the agency. By July 31, states are due to submit to EPA their plans for curbing haze-forming air pollution such as sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), under an extended deadline."

EPA May Toughen Power Plant Air Standards.

Greenwire (6/7) reports, "EPA might try to toughen hazardous air pollutant standards for coal-fired power plants in the course of revisiting one of the Trump administration's most incendiary environmental moves." EPA Acting Assistant Administrator for the Office of Air and Radiation Joe Goffman is interviewed.

[Back to top ▲](#)

Air/Climate/ Energy

Biden Administration Faces Hurdles In Push To Expand Offshore Wind.

The New York Times (6/7, Penn) reports that "with more than 90,000 miles of coastline, the country has plenty of places to plunk down turbines. But legal, environmental and economic obstacles and even vanity have stood in the way." The Biden Administration's targets for curbing greenhouse gas emissions depend on an expansion of offshore wind, but "problems abound, including a shortage of boats big enough to haul the huge equipment to sea, fishermen worried about their livelihoods and wealthy people who fear that the turbines will mar the pristine views from their waterfront mansions." Moreover, a "politically fraught federal law known as the Jones Act" prevents wind farm developers "from using American ports to launch foreign construction vessels."

Brownfields/Superfund/Other Cleanups + Redevelopment

Opportunity, MT Suit Settlement Announced.

The **Ravalli (MT) Republic** (6/7, Duncan Adams) reports a settlement was reached in the suit by residents of Opportunity, MT against the Atlantic Richfield Co. was announced June 3 by the plaintiffs representatives Odegaard Kovacich Snipes. The terms of the settlement are confidential. The suit was filed in 2008 and charged ARCO with “common law trespass, nuisance and strict liability against ARCO and sought restoration damages to pay for a more thorough cleanup” of residents’ properties “than what was planned by ARCO under a federal Superfund remedy.” Opportunity is the factory town associated with the Anaconda Co. Smelter.

Climate Change

Carbon Dioxide In The Atmosphere Reaches Record Level Despite Pandemic Drop.

The **Washington Post** (6/7, Dennis, Mufson) reports, “Economies worldwide nearly ground to a halt over the 15 months of the coronavirus pandemic, leading to a startling drop in global greenhouse gas emissions.” However, “that did little to slow the steady accumulation of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, which reached the highest levels since accurate measurements began 63 years ago, scientists said Monday.” Scientists from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration “said on Monday that levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide peaked in May, reaching a monthly average of nearly 419 parts per million.”

The **New York Times** (6/7, Plumer) reports the previous high was “417 parts per million, set in May 2020.” Ralph Keeling, a geochemist who runs the Scripps Oceanography CO₂ program, “noted that last year’s drop in annual emissions was too small to be detected in the atmospheric data, since it can be overshadowed by natural fluctuations in carbon emissions from vegetation and soil in response to seasonal changes in temperature and soil moisture.” He said, “The last decade has seen the most rapid growth of any decade in human history. So it’s not just that the levels are high, it’s that they’re still rising fast.”

Bloomberg (6/7, Roston) reports Keeling said, “The ultimate control knob on atmospheric CO₂ is fossil-fuel emissions, but we still have a long way to go to halt the rise, as each year more CO₂ piles up in the atmosphere. We ultimately need cuts that are much larger and sustained longer than the COVID-related shutdowns of 2020.”

House Highway Bill Includes Climate As A Common Refrain.

Roll Call (6/7, Wehrman) reports that “House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Peter A. DeFazio vowed to make fighting climate change a fundamental goal of the next highway bill his committee would take up, and certainly, the issue gets its share of mentions in the bill released Friday.” Roll call says “climate change, resiliency and reducing emissions are woven throughout the bill’s 1,249 pages, with the word ‘climate’ appearing 96 times; ‘resiliency,’ ‘resilient’ or ‘resilience’ 100 times; and emissions 107 times.” Meanwhile, “the five-year, \$547 billion bill, scheduled to be marked up on Wednesday, would make climate change and emissions reduction a goal of nearly every applicable federal transportation program.” Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) called the bill “a down payment for the green future that addresses climate change.” However, “Republicans and conservatives are skeptical.”

Study: Emissions Vary Widely Among US Oil And Gas Producers.

Natural Gas Intelligence (6/7, Baker) reports greenhouse gas emissions and emissions intensity “vary substantially among US onshore oil and gas producers, according to a new study by nonprofits the Clean Air Task Force (CATF) and Ceres.” The report compiled data reported by 295 producers to the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program (GHGRP), as well as data calculated from assumptions in EPA’s annual Greenhouse Gas Inventory. For overall emissions intensity, “oil and gas producers in the top quartile average nearly 10 times the intensity of producers in the lowest quartile.” Researchers also found that “higher production volumes do not necessarily mean higher absolute emissions.” For example, the study “lists ExxonMobil as no. 1 in oil and gas production among the companies reporting emissions data, but no. 37 in GHG intensity.” Publicly-traded energy companies “are under increasing pressure from investors to reduce emissions, as evidenced by the recent success of climate-driven shareholder initiatives at ExxonMobil and Chevron.”

[Back to top ▲](#)

Energy Issues

Climate Activists Seize Control Of Pipeline Construction Site In Minnesota.

The Washington Post (6/7, Partlow) reports that “hundreds of protestors,” who were led by Native Americans and supported by celebrity activists, “marched into a construction site operated by Enbridge, the Canadian company behind the pipeline, and strapped themselves to bulldozers and other heavy machinery” on Monday. The conflict over the Line 3 pipeline in Minnesota “has been driven in part by Indigenous activists who see a double-barreled threat in the pipeline: a carbon-producing fossil fuel project at a time of worsening climate change and one that also risks polluting tribal lands in the headwaters of the Mississippi River.”

Nearly 2,000 People Protest Line 3 Pipeline.

The *Minneapolis Star Tribune* (6/7, Johnson) reports in continuing coverage that nearly 2,000 people marched in a protest Monday against Enbridge's Line 3 Pipeline replacement project in Minnesota. Several hundred other protesters also disrupted construction at a pump station for the pipeline by blocking access to the road and locking themselves to equipment. Dozens were arrested "at the pump station, and at one point a Department of Homeland Security helicopter flew in low, blowing up dust in an apparent attempt to break up the occupation." In an email, Enbridge spokeswoman Juli Kellner said, "We respect everyone's right to peacefully and lawfully protest." Kellner added, however, that "trespass, intimidation, and destruction are unacceptable."

The AP (6/7, Kolpack) reports Enbridge "said that 44 workers were evacuated from the site in an effort to de-escalate the situation."

S&P Global Platts (6/7, Blum) reports Enbridge "said...that it recognizes the 'strong feelings' of the protestors, but the project has gone through a thorough regulatory and environmental permitting process for six years." In a statement, the company said, "Our main focus is the safety of all involved our workers, first responders, and the protesters themselves. ... To date, protests have had relatively little impact on construction, which is on track across five different construction zones working simultaneously along more than 330 miles replacing Line 3 in northern Minnesota."

The *New York Times* (6/7, Furber, Tabuchi, Davenport), and the *Washington Times* (6/7, Richardson) provide additional coverage.

Native American Tribes Pressure Biden To Halt Construction Of Minnesota Oil Pipeline.

The *New York Times* (6/7, Furber, Tabuchi, Davenport) reports that "protesters gathering in the boreal forests of Northern Minnesota have come from across the country – Native American tribes and their supporters, environmentalists and religious leaders – all to halt Line 3, a \$9 billion pipeline that would carry hundreds of thousands of barrels of oil through Minnesota's delicate watersheds and tribal lands." The Times adds that "behind the scenes...Native lawyers have been urging the Biden administration to intervene, flexing the newfound political clout of tribal nations that now have increasing numbers of members in influential government positions – and are prepared to hold Mr. Biden to his campaign promises on racial equity, particularly for Native Americans." According to the Times, "Native American tribes see the construction as a violation of their tribal sovereignty, an issue that President Biden explicitly pledged to prioritize during his campaign."

Sen. Ernst Pushes For Transparency In Refinery Waivers.

Inside EPA (6/7) reports, "Sen. Joni Ernst (R-IA) is touting her support for a bipartisan effort for greater transparency in EPA's granting of waivers to small refiners from the agency's renewable fuel standard (RFS) biofuel blending mandates, saying the agency has previously given out the waivers "like candy." Biofuels advocates have for years complained about the secrecy surrounding EPA's process for granting the waivers."

PHSMA Tells Pipeline Operators To Begin Complying With The PIPES Act.

Reuters (6/7, Volcovici) reports the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHSMA) sent an advisory bulletin to pipeline operators on Monday to begin complying with PIPES Act, which was

signed at the end last year. The law “created dozens of new regulatory mandates for the agency including the oversight of methane leaks by natural gas pipelines and transmission systems.” The bulletin “tells operators that they must have inspection and maintenance plans in place by the Dec. 27 to minimize methane emission releases and repair or replace outdated leaking pipes, and makes clear that the agency will enforce these requirements in January 2022.” PHMSA Acting Administrator Tristan Brown said, “Minimizing methane emissions from pipelines will help improve safety and combat climate change, while creating jobs for pipeline workers. ... Pipeline operators have an obligation to protect the public and the environment by identifying and addressing methane leaks.”

California Looks At Real-time Retail Pricing To Facilitate More Renewables.

PV Magazine USA (6/7, Driscoll) reports “real-time retail pricing of electricity, which can make room for more renewables on the grid by increasing demand flexibility, is one element of a draft proposal presented by the California Public Utilities Commission’s (CPUC’s) Energy Division.” The CPUC “is considering opening a rulemaking aimed at achieving widespread demand flexibility.” The system “could include scheduled charging of electric vehicles and distributed storage, and remote control of space heating and water heating, said CPUC Commissioner Darcie Houck in remarks during a recent workshop.” Real-time electricity pricing “has been proven to work in a pilot program funded by the California Energy Commission” that involved SoCal Edison customers.

Karelas: Fossil Fuels Are “The New Tobacco.”

In commentary for The Hill (6/7), Andreas Karelas, founder and Executive Director of climate justice nonprofit RE-volv, says, “Fossil fuels are definitively the new tobacco, and we are witnessing a historic moment in real-time: The end of the fossil fuel age.” On May 26, “Shell, Exxon and Chevron, all took some pretty significant blows.” Shell was ordered by a court to reduce its emissions 45% by 2030, ExxonMobil “now has three seats on its board occupied by climate activist investors,” and Chevron “had to face the music when 61% of shareholders voted to reduce emissions of the products it sells.” Karelas says, “Whether you’re listening to the IEA, the climate scientists, the outcries of activists, or whether you only care about dollars and economic indicators – the writing is on the wall.”

[Back to top ▲](#)

Enforcement

GAO To Examine Environmental Impact Of Border Wall.

The Hill (6/7, Frazin) reports Government Accountability Office has told House Natural Resources Chair Raúl Grijalva that it will “analyze the environmental and cultural impacts of the southern border wall,” as he requested. The Hill says that Grijalva wants the GAO to examine “the extent to which Customs and Border Protection looked into potential impacts to natural and cultural resources before carrying out construction, and the extent to which such assessments aligned with those done by tribes, communities, federal scientists and environmental groups.”

Rules/Regulations/Policy

Colorado Emissions Bill Passes State Senate Panels, Brings Governor On Board.

The Colorado Springs (CO) Gazette (6/7, Poblete) reports the Colorado Senate Finance and Appropriations panels “and the chamber’s Committee of the Whole on Monday voted to advance House Bill 1266, a measure that was originally aimed at environmental justice via the creation of an ombudsperson and an advisory committee.” The bill has grown to include an amendment “designed primarily to make the Air Quality Control Commission the ‘program manager of meeting our greenhouse gas reduction goals.’”

White House Environmental Justice Guidance May Be Adjusted.

Inside EPA (6/7) reports, “White House advisors say they expect to seek “adjustments” when an inter-agency group releases guidance for how officials plan to implement President Joe Biden’s environmental justice (EJ) agenda, including for how officials meet goals to ensure that 40 percent of the benefit goes to relevant communities and to limit development of polluting infrastructure.” White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council member Felicia Davis is interviewed.

DOJ Files Request To Dismiss Social Cost Of Carbon Lawsuit.

Bloomberg (6/7, Larson) reports the Department of Justice filed a request in a federal court in Missouri on Friday asking the court to dismiss a lawsuit filed by more than a dozen Republican state attorneys general challenging the Biden Administration’s move to strengthen its calculations for the social costs of carbon. The DOJ said in its filing that the lawsuit isn’t valid because the states have not yet been harmed by the changes. In the filing, the DOJ said, “Since the Reagan era, every President has supervised a centralized process for the review of proposed regulations and, by executive order, required agencies to submit cost-benefit analyses that align with the President’s policymaking principles. ... And beginning under President George W. Bush, agencies have used estimates of the social cost of greenhouse gas emissions when preparing those analyses.”

Administration Officials, Congress People, Regulator To Appear At Virtual Clean Power Summit.

Inside EPA (6/7) reports, “Supporters of renewable power and other types of clean energy are mapping out steps to boost deployment of the technologies, while House Democrats are poised to highlight the varying threats from climate change and ways to build resilience to such risks. ... The American Clean Power Association is holding a June 7-10 virtual summit on efforts to ‘accelerate the energy transition,’ featuring remarks from key Biden administration officials, congressional leaders from both parties and a federal energy regulator.”

Toxics

Bayer Asks 11th Circuit Court To Uphold Roundup Preemption Ruling.

Reuters (6/7, Pierson) reports, “Bayer AG on Friday urged the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to find that state law failure-to-warn claims over its Roundup weedkiller are preempted by federal law, which would create a circuit split that could send the issue to the Supreme Court.” In Bayer’s appellate brief, they “said the Environmental Protection Agency had found that Roundup’s active chemical, glyphosate, did not cause cancer, meaning it could not be required to warn of cancer risk under state law.”

EPA Says It Will Reconsider PPE Use Assumptions.

Inside EPA (6/7) reports, “The Biden EPA’s announcement that it intends to reconsider Trump-era assumptions on workers’ use of personal protective equipment (PPE) in at least two TSCA chemical evaluations is restarting debate on how the toxics program should address worker safety – a thorny question since the law gives officials little direction on that subject.”

EPA To Formulate New Rules On Asbestos Reporting.

Bloomberg BNA (6/7, Earls) reports the EPA “will issue a new rule that requires reporting on asbestos under the Toxic Substances Control Act, after a judge criticized the agency’s current reporting rule for containing several reporting ‘loopholes,’ according to a filing in a California federal court.” The agency has nine months to submit new rules after the date of the filing.

Reuters (6/8, Malo) and Inside EPA (6/7) also report.

California Assembly Advances New PFAS Ban.

Inside EPA (6/7) reports, “The California Assembly has advanced two bills that would ban the sale of ‘juvenile’ products and food packaging that contain per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) while also tightening labeling mandates for cookware manufacturers, including a ban on claiming that products are free of substances that belong to chemical classes like PFAS. The bills, which are opposed by chemical and product manufacturing groups, would bypass the state toxics department’s landmark Safer Consumer Products (SCP) green chemistry program.”

Groups Petition For Ban On PFAS In Food Packaging.

Inside EPA (6/7) reports, “A coalition of environmental and public-health groups is petitioning the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to ban per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in “food contact substances” (FCSs) like packaging – which would be the first federal ban on any use of perfluorinated chemicals, and supersede a push for state-level packaging bans.”

Report Says Benzene Contaminated Dozens Of Popular Sunscreens.

A report from Valisure says that “dozens of popular sunscreen products have been contaminated with a chemical that is known to cause cancer, called benzene,” **USA Today** (6/7, Rodriguez) reports. Valisure, “a Connecticut-based online pharmacy and laboratory, tested and analyzed 294 unique batches from 69 different companies and found 78 sunscreen and after-sun care products contained the chemical.” Since “benzene is not an ingredient of sunscreen products,” health experts “speculate the chemical may have contaminated these products during the manufacturing process as benzene levels varied between batches of the same product from the same companies.” Valisure’s citizen petition is “calling on the Food and Drug Administration to recall 40 sunscreen and after-sun care products found to contain higher levels of benzene made by Neutrogena, Sun Bum, CVS Health and Fruit of the Earth.”

Toxic Chemicals Associated With Reduced Fertility, Birth Rates Globally, Researchers Say.

In the **Independent (UK)** (6/7), Karolinska Institutet fertility researchers Jasmin Hassan, Pauliina Damdimopoulou, and Richelle Duque Björvang write, “Birth rates are decreasing worldwide” with all European countries seeing birth rates drop “below population replacement levels.” One factor associated with “decreased fertility is the presence of industrial chemicals,” which “have been found to be harmful to reproduction after only decades of consumer use. These include PFAS (the chemical used in Teflon, Scotchgard, and firefighting foam), phthalates (used in plastic packaging, medical equipment and soaps and shampoos), as well as pesticides and other industrial chemicals like PCBs.”

Switzerland To Hold Referendum On Proposal To Ban Synthetic Pesticides.

Reuters (6/7, Revill) reports Switzerland could “become the first European country to ban artificial pesticides in a June 13 referendum.” Initiative proponents hope it “will trigger similar prohibitions elsewhere,” as they “say the artificial products cause serious health problems and reduce biodiversity.” Manufacturers, meanwhile, “say their pesticides are rigorously tested and regulated, can be used safely and crop yields would slump without them.”

Voice of America (6/6) runs an AFP dispatch on the referendum. Proponents seek to “ban pesticides with non-naturally occurring chemicals – and not only for agriculture but also for public green spaces, private gardens, and even for killing the weeds on railway tracks.” The initiative would “ban the import of foodstuffs produced with synthetic pesticides, so as not to put Swiss farmers at a disadvantage.”

[Back to top ▲](#)

Trash/Recycling/Solid Waste

German Bottle Deposit Program Viewed As Model For Other EU States.

EurActiv (6/7, Keating) reports ten EU member states “are planning to switch to deposit schemes for beverage container recycling in order to meet new Green Deal requirements.” Germany, which has operated the “world’s largest” bottle deposit program, is viewed as a model, and as “other European countries think about emulating the scheme, they are curious to hear what has gone right, and what has

been a challenge.” Clarissa Morawski, CEO of the recycling non-profit platform Reloop, said, “Germany has the most successful deposit return program in the world, and it’s also the largest.”

[Back to top ▲](#)

Water

OMB Completes Review Of EPA Request To Delay Water Rules Revision.

Inside EPA (6/7) reports, “The White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has completed its review of a final EPA rule to delay key deadlines in the Trump-era revisions to the lead and copper drinking water rule (LCR), likely giving the agency more time to continue its discussions with stakeholders on how to make additional changes to the requirements. EPA sent the rule for OMB review May 26, and OMB completed its review June 4, according to OMB’s website.”

EPA Asks Court To Delay Water Quality Certification Litigation.

Inside EPA (6/7) reports, “EPA is asking three federal district courts to delay by two weeks the resumption of litigation over a controversial Trump-era rule on state water quality certifications for federal permits, noting that state and environmental plaintiffs are still determining how the agency’s announcement that it plans to revise the policy affects the lawsuits. ‘EPA has met and conferred with Plaintiffs regarding next steps for this litigation in light of EPA’s recent Notice,’ the agency says in a June 4 motion.”

EPA Says PolyMet Mine May “Affect” Water Quality.

Inside EPA (6/7) reports, “Responding to a first-time court ruling, EPA has determined that a controversial planned metals mine in Minnesota ‘may affect’ the water quality in Wisconsin, opening the door for downstream jurisdictions to request a public hearing from the Army Corps of Engineers on impacts that should be considered in a Corps-issued dredge-and-fill permit.”

Greenwire (6/7, Frank) also reports.

Biden’s Budget Would Boost Funds To Great Lakes.

The Cleveland Plain Dealer (6/7) reports that “programs to benefit the Great Lakes would be awash with cash if Congress implements the \$6 trillion federal budget plan that President Joe Biden recently unveiled.” In particular, “it would boost funding to repair ailing wastewater and drinking water infrastructure by \$464 million.” It would also “provide a \$20 million increase in money to help communities reduce sewage overflows and a \$10 million boost in funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.” Meanwhile, “Biden’s budget proposal would also more than double funding for programs to reduce lead in drinking water, provide a \$2 billion funding boost for the [EPA] and fully fund pre-engineering and design work for the Brandon Road Lock and Dam project in Illinois to keep invasive carp from escaping into the Great Lakes.”

ESG

ANA Introduces ESG Brand Perception Index To Evaluate Brands.

Ad Age (6/7, Pasquarelli) reports The Association for National Advertisers (ANA) “introduced a measurement tool, called the ESG Brand Perception Index, that ranks brands by environmental, social and governance impact.” The ANA “worked with data science company Swayable to survey consumers on 400 brands, which were then ranked from 1 to 20 in seven categories: fast-moving consumer goods, health care, insurance, retail, finance, travel and entertainment.” Marriott scored the top spot on travel.

EY’s Paul Brody Foresees Consumers Being Able To Offset Their Crypto Emissions.

Forbes (6/7, Schmidt) reports Bitcoin’s decentralized structure drives a “huge carbon emissions footprint” because in order to verify transactions, “Bitcoin requires computers to solve ever more complex math problems.” Paul Brody, Global Blockchain Leader at EY said, “I very much doubt [whoever founded] Bitcoin anticipated such enormous success in the future and, consequently, the enormous amounts of power we’re talking about.” Brody foresees consumers being able to pay to offset their crypto emissions. He said, “I anticipate a future where it will be possible to simultaneously pay a transaction processing fee on networks like Ethereum as well as a carbon-offset fee, just as you have the option when traveling by air.”

Regulation Legislation

Rhode Island Senator Says He Is “Very Anxious” About Climate Legislation.

The Hill (6/7, Frazin) reports Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) “on Monday expressed concern about the possibility of future climate legislation, particularly flagging issues about climate in infrastructure negotiations.” Whitehouse tweeted, “I’m now officially very anxious about climate legislation. I’ll admit I’m sensitive from the Obama climate abandonment, but I sense trouble.” He added that “climate has fallen out of the infrastructure discussion, as it took its bipartisanship detour” and said he doesn’t foresee “the preparatory work for a close Senate climate vote taking place in the administration.” The senator’s comments “come as bipartisan negotiations” on climate and infrastructure continue.

Granholm Stresses Urgency Of Renewable Energy And Infrastructure Legislation. The Washington Examiner (6/7, Siegel) reports that “Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm, meanwhile, is striking a more impatient tone than some of her fellow administration officials about the state of bipartisan infrastructure negotiations, suggesting she supports pivoting soon to passing a more clean

energy-centric bill with only Democratic votes through reconciliation.” Granholm told CNN’s State of the Union, “This has got to be done soon. It’s just a bit perplexing why the Republicans haven’t moved further on critical pieces.... The clock is ticking. There is an endpoint to this discussion.”

[Back to top ▲](#)

Limetree Bay Refinery

Opinion: Limetree Bay Should Be Seen In Historical Context.

In an op-ed in the *St. Thomas Source* (6/7), University of the Virgin Islands Professor Emeritus of Political Science Paul Leary praises the *St. Thomas Source* for its series of article that placed the Limetree Bay refinery in the historical context of “the role played on St. Croix by the establishment of the Harvey and Hess facilities,” which revealed “how decisions made in a short-sighted quest for economic benefits can have long-term harmful consequences.”

Limetree Bay Was Bad Investment.

Beacon (ME) (6/7, Neumann) reports, “Republican state Reps. Gary Drinkwater and Michael Lemelin took to the floor of the Maine House last week to voice support for oil companies” and claim that greenhouse gas emissions are good for the environment during a debate on legislation to require Maine’s Public Employee Retirement System (MEPERS) “to divest from fossil fuel companies.” Limetree Bay is cited by the author as an example of a fossil fuel investment that did not bring financial benefit.

[Back to top ▲](#)

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